

Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee DMC Subcommittee

February 17, 2015 Meeting
Office of Grants and Research, EOPSS
3:00pm – 5:00pm

Notes

Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. FFY15 Three Year Plan – DMC Goals/Objectives/Action Steps
3. Coordination and Collaboration with the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Leadership Forum and DMC/RED Grant Project
4. Updates:
 - a. Effective Police Interactions with Youth Training
 - b. MassCourts
 - c. DMC Assessment Study and Compliance Concerns
 - d. Diversion Study
 - e. JDAI
5. Other Business?

Attendance: Mark Booher, Chair (by phone); Naoka Carey, Citizens for Juvenile Justice; Wendy Kaplan, Boston University Law School.

EOPSS Staff: Andrew Polk, DMC Reduction Specialist.

The attendees reviewed a draft of the **DMC Goals/Objectives/Action Steps** suggested for the FFY15 Three Year Plan. No major revisions were suggested. (See handout).

There was discussion about how to best collaborate with and support the **Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Leadership Forum**. Naoka Carey informed the subcommittee of the efforts and vision of the group including its decision for work specifically on DMC. The group has received a grant to work on DMC. Potential uses of the grant funds were discussed. Citizens for Juvenile Justice is compiling a list of DMC/RED-related initiatives in the Commonwealth. Schools and school resource officers represent important stakeholder groups to work with given RED problems in school discipline and arrests.

In March, EOPSS and the Massachusetts Major Cities Chiefs association will schedule the **Effective Police Interactions with Youth Training** which will likely take place in the late-Spring. It will be a training of trainers (TOT). It is intended that officers who take the training will help train other officers in their regions, particularly in light of recent events in other states that reveal the tensions between police and communities of color.

There is concern with **MassCourts**. Stakeholders have been told that it is currently not possible to extract data from the system. In addition, there is concern about whether race/ethnicity data is consistently and reliably being inputted into the system by staff at the various courts across the Commonwealth.

There does not seem to have been progress on the **DMC Assessment Study** that the Executive Office of the Trial Court committed to completing. It is assumed that the project is stalled due to the data problems with MassCourts. If an assessment study is not completed in the near future it could jeopardize the Commonwealth's compliance with the DMC core requirement of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

Release of the **Diversions Study** is pending while JJAC Chair, Bob Gittens, discusses concerns of the Massachusetts District Attorney's Association and the Essex County District Attorney's Office with Essex County DA staff.